IK Multimedia iRig USB

IK Multimedia iRig USB Guitar Audio Interface User Manual

Model: iRig USB

1. Introduction

The IK Multimedia iRig USB is a compact and portable guitar audio interface designed for musicians to connect their instruments to computers and mobile devices for recording, practice, and performance. It offers high-quality 24-bit, 48 kHz audio resolution, ensuring clear and detailed sound capture. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your iRig USB.

Key Features:

- **High-Quality Sound:** Captures audio with studio-grade 24-bit 48kHz resolution.
- **Universal Compatibility:** Works with Mac, PC, iPad, and iPhone 15 via USB-C.
- **Seamless Connection:** Plug-and-play operation with no drivers required.
- **Versatile Outputs:** Features a headphone output for silent practice and a dedicated Amp out with selectable FX (processed) or THRU (direct) settings.
- **Software Bundle:** Includes a suite of recording software and plug-ins to enhance your creative workflow.
- **Robust & Portable Design:** Durable and compact, ideal for studio or on-the-go use.

2. Setup

Follow these steps to connect your iRig USB and begin using it with your device.

2.1 Package Contents

- iRig USB Audio Interface
- USB-C to USB-C Cable

2.2 Connecting Your iRig USB

1. **Connect Instrument:** Plug your guitar or other instrument into the 1/4-inch instrument input on the iRig USB.
2. **Connect to Device:** Use the included USB-C cable to connect the iRig USB to your Mac, PC, iPad, or iPhone 15. The iRig USB is plug-and-play and typically requires no additional drivers.
3. **Connect Headphones (Optional):** For silent monitoring, plug your headphones into the 1/8-inch stereo headphone/monitor out jack.
4. **Connect to Amplifier (Optional):** To send your signal to an external amplifier or pedal rig, connect a 1/4-inch cable from the Mono Amp Out on the iRig USB to your amplifier's input.

Note: The iRig USB is designed for USB-C connections and will not function correctly with Lightning cables.



Image: iRig USB connected to a laptop with a guitar and headphones, illustrating a typical setup for recording or practice.



Image: The iRig USB interface seamlessly connected to various devices including an iPad, Mac, and PC, demonstrating its broad compatibility.

3. Operating Instructions

Understand the controls and functions of your iRig USB for optimal performance.

3.1 Controls and Indicators



Image: A detailed diagram highlighting the various ports and controls of the iRig USB, including the Stereo headphone/monitor out, USB-C connection, Gain LED indicator, Gain control knob, FX bypass switch, Instrument input, and Mono amp out.

- **Gain Control:** This large rotary knob adjusts the input level of your instrument. Turn clockwise to increase gain, counter-clockwise to decrease. Adjust until the SIGNAL LED illuminates steadily without clipping (flickering red).
- **SIGNAL LED Indicator:** A blue LED that indicates signal presence. It should light up when you play your instrument. If it flickers red, your input signal is too high and may cause distortion; reduce the gain.
- **Stereo Headphone/Monitor Out:** A 1/8-inch (3.5mm) jack for connecting headphones for direct monitoring of your input and playback from your device.
- **USB-C Connection:** The port for connecting the iRig USB to your computer or mobile device.
- **FX/THRU Switch:** This switch on the side controls the signal sent to the Mono Amp Out.
  - **FX:** Sends the processed (effected) signal from your software to the amp out.
  - **THRU:** Sends a direct, unprocessed signal from your instrument to the amp out, bypassing software effects.
- **Instrument Input:** A 1/4-inch (6.35mm) jack for connecting your guitar or other instrument.
- **Mono Amp Out:** A 1/4-inch (6.35mm) jack for connecting to an external guitar amplifier or pedalboard.

3.2 Software Integration

The iRig USB is designed to work seamlessly with various Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs) and mobile recording applications. It comes bundled with software like AmpliTube and TONEX Amp Modeling Apps, which provide a wide range of virtual amplifiers, cabinets, and effects.

- **AmpliTube:** A powerful guitar and bass tone studio for Mac/PC and iOS, offering realistic amplifier and effects simulations.
- **TONEX:** Captures the sound of any amp, cabinet, or pedal and transforms it into a Tone Model that can be played on your computer or mobile device.

Refer to the specific software manuals for detailed instructions on using these applications.



Image: The iRig USB connected to a mobile device, demonstrating its plug-and-play functionality with various DAWs and mobile recording applications.

4. Maintenance

Proper care will ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your iRig USB.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the device. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or harsh chemicals.
- **Storage:** Store the iRig USB in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity.
- **Handling:** Avoid dropping the device or subjecting it to strong impacts. Do not force cables into ports.
- **Cable Care:** Always grasp the plug, not the cable, when disconnecting. Avoid bending cables sharply.

5. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your iRig USB, refer to the following common problems and solutions.

5.1 No Sound or Low Volume

- **Check Connections:** Ensure all cables (instrument, USB-C, headphones, amp out) are securely connected.
- **Adjust Gain:** Slowly increase the Gain control on the iRig USB. Observe the SIGNAL LED; it should light up when playing. If it's red, reduce the gain slightly.
- **Device Volume:** Check the volume settings on your computer or mobile device, as well as within your recording software.
- **Software Input/Output:** Verify that the iRig USB is selected as the input and output device within your DAW or audio application settings.
- **Headphone/Amp Out:** If using headphones, ensure they are plugged in correctly. If using an amp, check the FX/THRU switch position and amp volume.

5.2 Distorted Sound

- **Reduce Gain:** If the SIGNAL LED is constantly red or flickering red, the input signal is too hot. Decrease the Gain control on the iRig USB.
- **Check Software Settings:** Ensure no excessive gain staging or clipping is occurring within your recording software or virtual amplifier settings.
- **Cable Integrity:** Test with different cables to rule out faulty instrument or USB cables.

5.3 Latency Issues

- **Direct Monitoring:** Use the headphone output on the iRig USB for direct monitoring to hear your instrument without software latency.
- **Software Buffer Size:** In your DAW or audio application settings, try reducing the audio buffer size. Lower buffer sizes reduce latency but may require more processing power from your device.
- **Android Compatibility:** While compatible with some Android devices, significant latency can occur on certain models. For critical recording, Mac, PC, iPad, or iPhone 15 are recommended.

5.4 Device Not Recognized

- **USB-C Connection:** Ensure you are using a USB-C connection. The iRig USB is not compatible with Lightning cables.
- **Try Different Port/Cable:** Connect to a different USB-C port on your device or try a different USB-C cable.
- **Restart Device:** Sometimes, restarting your computer or mobile device can resolve recognition issues.

6. Specifications

Detailed technical specifications for the IK Multimedia iRig USB.



Image: Visual representation of the iRig USB dimensions, showing a length of 3.9 inches and a width of 1.65 inches.

Feature	Specification
Model Number	iRig USB
Item Weight	1.9 ounces
Product Dimensions	1.5 x 3.9 x 1 inches
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer, iPad, Mac, iPhone 15
Connector Type	1/4-Inch Straight (Instrument Input), 1/8-Inch (Headphone Out), USB-C
Hardware Interface	USB 3.0 Type C

Feature	Specification
Supported Software	AmpliTube & TONEX Amp Modeling Apps
Operating System	Mac OS X, Windows, iPad OS, iOS
Brand	IK Multimedia
Connectivity Technology	USB
Number of Channels	2 (Input/Output)

7. Warranty and Support

For information regarding product warranty, technical support, and additional resources, please refer to the official IK Multimedia website or contact their customer service directly.

- **Official Website:** Visit the IK Multimedia website for the latest product information, software downloads, and support documentation.
- **Online Store:** Explore other IK Multimedia products and accessories at the IK Multimedia Amazon Store.

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